

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20 DRC-01 /160 W

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R 221300Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1648

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 1015

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF XJ MR

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN FONMIN DEPARTS ON MISSION TO SIX

AFRICAN STATES RE MID-EAST CONFLICT

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 859 (NOTAL)

1. FONMIN MOUKNASS RETURNED OCT 21 FROM LATEST TWO-WEEK STAY AT UNGA AND DEPARTED SAME AFTERNOON FOR GAMBIA, SIERRA-LEONE, NIGERIA, GHANA, LIBERIA, AND ETHIOPIA. COMMENTING HE MAKING THIS NEW TRIP CARRYING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH, MOUKNASS REVEALED LITTLE OTHER THAN HIS MISSION RELATED TO MID-EAST SITUATION. FONMIN ADDED THAT HE HAD JUST BROUGHT WITH HIM "MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE" FROM PRESIDENT SADAT TO OULD DADDAH.

2. COMMENT. LAST SUMMER MOUKNASS TRAVELLED THOUGHOUT
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NORTH AND MID-EAST ARAB CAPITALS URGING ON BEHALF OULD

DADDAH THAT ARAB STATES PAY MORE ATTENTION TO BLACK AFRICAN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN RETURN FOR AFRICAN SUPPORT GIVEN ARABS AGAINST ISRAEL AT OAU SUMMIT (REFTEL). DURING PAST MONTH SENIOR GIRM FONMIN COUNSELLOR SULEIMAN OULD CHEIKH SIDYA HAS BEEN TRAVELLING TO SIXTEEN BLACK AFRICAN STATES ON COMPLEMENTARY MISSION, REPORTEDLY URGING THOSE GOVTS TO STAND FIRM WITH ARABS. MOUKNASS WILL BE VISITING SOME OF SAME CAPITALS ON PRESENT TOUR.

3. WE ASSUME SADAT'S MESSAGE CONSTITUTES SOME FORM RECOGNITION OULD DADDAH'S EFFORTS RALLY AFRICAN OPINION TO ARAB SIDE. WILL TRY CONFIRM THIS. FOR HIS PART OULD DADDAH UNDOUBTEDLY DELIGHTED AT CHANCE ENGAGE IN THIS TANGIBLE ACTION SUPPORTING ARABS. WE PRESUME MOUKNASS WILL SEEK ENCOURAGE HIS HOSTS TO CUT THEIR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL OR AT LEAST GET THEM TO ADOPT MORE OPENLY PRO-ARAB POSITIONS.
MURPHY

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